

this legislation fall within budget function 150 (international affairs).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for Debt Reduction of Developing Countries with Tropical Forests:						
Budget Authority ¹	13	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	6	13	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes:						
Authorization Level	0	50	75	100	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	13	36	69	64	39
Spending Under S. 1021 for Debt Reduction of Developing Countries with Tropical Forests:						
Authorization Level ¹	13	50	75	100	0	0
Estimated Outlays	6	26	36	69	64	39

¹ The 2001 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the cost of implementing the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO assumes that the authorized amounts would be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays would follow historical spending patterns.

Pay-As-You-Go Considerations: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1021 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On June 21, 2001, CBO prepared an estimate for H.R. 2131, a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the House Committee on International Relations. The amounts authorized and the estimated cost of implementing that bill and S. 1021 are the same.

Estimate Prepared By: Federal Costs: Joseph C. Whitehill (226-2840); Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Elyse Goldman (225-3220); and Impact on the Private Sector: Lauren Marks (226-2940).

Estimate Approved By: Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COST ESTIMATE ON S. 494

Mr. BIDEN, Mr. President, on July 12, the Committee on Foreign Relations reported S. 494, the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act of 2001. At the time the bill was reported, the cost estimate from the Congressional budget Office was not available.

I ask unanimous consent that the CBO estimate be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE, JULY 16, 2001

S. 494: ZIMBABWE DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT OF 2001

[As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on July 12, 2001]

SUMMARY

S. 494 would support a transition to democracy and promote economic recovery in Zimbabwe through a set of incentives and sanctions. The bill would require the United States to oppose lending by international financial institution to or debt relief for Zimbabwe until the President certifies to the Congress that certain conditions are satisfied. It would, however, authorize additional funds for programs to reform landholding

and to promote democracy and good governance in Zimbabwe. Assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$23 million over the 2002-2006 period. Because S. 494 would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 494 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 494 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 150 (international affairs).

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 494 would earmark \$20 million for land reform and \$6 million for programs to promote democracy and good governance in Zimbabwe from funds otherwise authorized to be appropriated in 2002 for development assistance and economic support fund. No funds are currently authorized for 2002. CBO assumes that the specified amounts would be appropriated by October 1, 2001, and that outlays would follow historical spending patterns.

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Spending Under Current Law for Zimbabwe:						
Budget Authority ¹	16	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	22	19	10	5	3	2
Proposed Changes:						
Authorization Level	0	26	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	2	8	7	4	2
Spending Under S. 494 for Zimbabwe:						
Authorization Level ¹	16	26	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	22	21	18	12	7	4

¹ The 2001 level is the amount appropriated for that year.

Pay-As-You-Go Considerations: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 494 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimate Prepared By: Federal Costs: Joseph C. Whitehill (226-2840); Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Elyse Goldman (225-3220); and Impact on the Private Sector: Lauren Marks (226-2940).

Estimate Approved By: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

“DISAPPEARED” BELARUSIAN OPPOSITION LEADERS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, earlier today, I had the opportunity to meet with the wives of four Belarusian opposition leaders who have either disappeared, been imprisoned, or have died under mysterious circumstances. Theirs is a compelling story which starkly illustrates the human toll of Alexander Lukashenka's regime in which human rights, democracy and the rule of law are violated with impunity.

These courageous women—Ludmilla Karpenko, Irina Krasovska, Tatiana Klimova and Svetlana Zavadska—conveyed their concerns about their husbands as well as about the continuing climate of fear in Belarus.

Earlier this month, I led a delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Annual Session, where I met with Anatoly Lebedko, one of the leaders of the Belarusian democratic opposition.

Belarusian presidential elections are quickly coming up—on September 9. Unfortunately, the Belarusian authorities have not yet made a serious commitment to abide by criteria set forth well over a year ago by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, of which Belarus is a member. These criteria include an end of the climate of fear, equal access to the state media for all candidates, respect for freedom of assembly, as well as transparency and fairness in the registration of candidates and functioning of electoral commissions.

The Helsinki Commission, which I chair, continues to receive troubling reports concerning developments in Belarus. Indeed, the prospects for free and fair presidential elections this fall remain dim. The unbalanced composition of the regional electoral commissions is particularly disturbing given the apparent rejection by the authorities of all candidates—over 800—proposed by Belarusian democratic parties and non-governmental organizations. The Belarusian authorities need to guarantee the impartiality of the electoral commissions by ensuring that democratic parties and non-governmental organizations, NGOs, are represented meaningfully and to correct other reported violations of the electoral code.

The State Department has urged the Belarusian authorities to mount a credible investigation to account for missing former Minister of Internal Affairs Yury Zakharenka, 13th Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Viktor Gonchar and his associate Anatoly Krasovskiy, as well as Russian Television cameraman Dmitry Zavadsky. They have urged the immediate release of political prisoners and 13th Supreme Soviet members Andrei Klimov and Valery Shchukin. Such an investigation, as well as the release of political prisoners, will be an essential factor in reducing the current climate of fear.

Finally, the Belarusian authorities need to work with the OSCE to facilitate the work of international and domestic observers and to help ensure that all candidates are able to organize freely, without harassment, and carry their campaigns to the people.

While it is not yet too late for the Belarusian authorities to take the steps necessary to ensure an atmosphere conducive to elections that will meet international democratic standards, time is of the essence. Free and fair presidential elections are an essential step if Belarus is to move ahead and end its self-imposed isolation. As President Bush has remarked in connection with this week's observance of Captive Nations Week, America must remain vigilant in our support of those living under authoritarianism. The people of Belarus have that support as they seek to overcome the legacy of

the past and build an independent nation based on democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

NURSE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT OF 2001

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I want to commend Senator ROCKEFELLER, Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, VA, for his leadership on the measure we are introducing today, the Nurse Recruitment and Retention Act of 2001.

I also want to commend Senator ROCKEFELLER for conducting his first hearing as newly appointed Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the looming nursing shortage. The Federal health sector, employing approximately 45,000 nurses and the VA as the single largest employer of nurses may be the hardest hit in the near future with an estimated 47 percent of its nursing workforce eligible for retirement in the year 2004. Current and anticipated nursing vacancies in Federal health care agencies are particularly alarming with the increased nursing care needs of an aging America. The Journal of the American Medical Association published a study last year which found the average age of the nursing workforce rose by 4.5 years between 1983 and 1998, mostly because fewer younger people are joining the profession.

It is imperative that the VA have the ability to recruit and retain nurses. Expert witnesses, like Nurses' Organization of Veterans Affairs, NOVA, President Sarah Meyers R.N., Ph.D. of Atlanta, GA, testified at the June 14 hearing. These witnesses identified critical issues ranging from those impacting VA nurses' ability to continue to safely care for veterans to nursing burn-out. Senator ROCKEFELLER and I have developed a comprehensive proposal to address both recruitment and retention of VA nurses.

The Nurse Recruitment and Retention Act of 2001 includes provisions for the nurse scholarship program and education debt reduction. The bill's other needed measures to enhance retention of nurses are: Saturday premium pay for nurses and other identified health professionals, inclusion of unused sick leave in retirement computation for nurses enrolled in the Federal Employees Retirement System, FERS, and full-time service credit in annuity computation for part-time service prior to April 7, 1986. Also proposed are reports to Congress on: (1) the use of mandatory overtime with recommendations for alternative staffing strategies and (2) the encouraged use of waivers of pay reduction for reemployed annuitants to fill needed nurse positions to enhance recruitment.

The Nurse Recruitment and Retention Act of 2001 is needed now in order for VA nurses to continue to care for this country's veterans.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in 1998 in Boston, MA. A 27-year old gay man was allegedly attacked and beaten when he was walking home from work by assailants who shouted anti-gay epithets. One of the attackers carved the letter "F," presumably for "faggot," on the victim's shoulder.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

COSPONSORSHIP OF S. 1188

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, because of a clerical mistake, Senator SPECTER was not listed as an original cosponsor to S. 1188, the Department of Veterans Affairs Nurse Recruitment and Retention Enhancement Act of 2001. This bill was introduced yesterday.

Although Senator SPECTER has now been added as a cosponsor and my introductory statement on the bill referred to him as an original cosponsor, I want the RECORD to reflect his early support of the legislation. I look forward to working with him to enact the VA Nurse Recruitment and Retention Act of 2001.

SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2001

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleague, Senator BOND, in introducing the Small Business Investment Company, SBIC, Amendments Act of 2001. I am a strong supporter of this program, and am mystified and frustrated by efforts to eliminate funding for and restrict the investment capacity of a program that does so much good for the economy.

Last year, the Agency financed 4,600 venture capital deals, which invested \$5.6 billion in our fastest-growing small businesses. In spite of this impressive track record, the President's budget, and the House appropriators, have eliminated funding for the SBIC participating securities program and reduced the program level for the debenture program, which requires no appropriations. Why eliminate funding and restrict activity for the SBIC programs when venture capital has all but dried up? As I have said so many times, the

programs at SBA are a bargain. For very little, taxpayers leverage their money to help thousands of small businesses every year and fuel the economy.

In the SBIC participating securities program last year, taxpayers spent \$1.31 for every \$100 leveraged for investment in our fastest growing companies—companies like Staples, Callaway Golf, Federal Express, and Apple computers.

The main purpose of this Act is to adjust the fees charged to Participating Security SBICs from one percent to 1.28 percent. The change is necessary because the demand for the SBIC program is growing beyond what is possible to fund solely through appropriations.

The National Association of Small Business Investment Companies, NASBIC, testified before both the Senate and House Committees on Small Business in favor of increasing the program level from \$2 billion to \$3.5 billion.

This legislation raises fees just enough to make up the difference between appropriations of \$26.2 million, which is level funding, and the \$65.4 million that would be needed to provide a \$3.5 billion program level. This approach is consistent with the Kerry/Bond amendment to the Budget Resolution that was agreed to in the Senate by voice vote in April, and retained in the final budget resolution.

The other changes strengthen the oversight and authority of SBA to take action against bad actors and protect the integrity of the program.

THE LOSS OF KATHARINE GRAHAM

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, yesterday Washington D.C. and the Nation lost a great friend. A first-rate role model and deft businesswoman, Katharine Graham was a believer in the first amendment who printed the stories that defined our Nation and impacted our lives. As one of the first female executives to run a major newspaper, Katharine Graham opened the doors of power for women here in the Nation's capital and around the country. When Katharine Graham assumed the reigns at The Washington Post, two women served in the U.S. Senate, and none served as Governors of States. Today, in large part because of the path that she and other women of her generation have blazed, there are more women serving as Members of Congress, as Governors, and as corporate executives than ever before. Among all her accomplishments, it is this inspiration for which I am most grateful. Katharine Graham will be surely remembered by her family, friends and her many admirers around the world.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday,